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Executive Registry

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GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION



Federal Supply Service
Washington, D.C. 20405

DEC 16 1967

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Vice Admiral Rufus L. Taylor, USN
Deputy Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Admiral Taylor:

The purpose of this letter is to (1) transmit a recent decision of the Comptroller General (B-151204/B-157587) Dated November 21, 1967, regarding the procurement of general purpose ADPE and related supplies and equipment and (2) to provide interim guidelines to departments and agencies pending the development and issuance of appropriate regulatory material in more permanent form.

Your specific attention is invited to the last paragraph of the Comptroller General's decision which states that the General Services Administration has exclusive authority to procure all general purpose ADPE and related supplies and equipment for use by other Federal agencies. In this regard, your attention is further invited to section 111e of P.L. 89-306 which renders certain sections of Title 1 of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (63 Stat. 377) as amended, dealing with agency exemptions, inapplicable.

Pending the development of permanent implementing regulatory material, orders placed against Federal Supply Schedule contracts and other GSA established sources of supply for both ADPE and related supplies and equipment will constitute compliance with the Comptroller General's decision. When, in the process of equipment selection, a change or amendment to the schedule is required, agencies should not issue announcements or letters of intent regarding equipment selection until the appropriate contract documents have been executed by the General Services Administration. In those instances that general purpose ADPE is required but is not available from the Federal Supply Schedule, the GSA will either (1) procure the necessary equipment or (2) provide for a delegation of authority upon request of the requiring agency.

On file GSA release
instructions apply.

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With regard to related supplies and equipment, we are now planning to convert the current multiple award Federal Supply Schedule contracts for those items of 800 BPI tape covered by Qualified Products Lists to competitive contracts effective March 1, 1968. These contracts will be used by all agencies as a primary source of supply. Quantities in excess of the maximum order limitation (\$50,000) will be procured by the General Services Administration on a consolidated basis. Agencies using large quantities of ADP magnetic tape may wish to have long-term contracts established for their requirements above the maximum order limitation. In such instances the request should be transmitted to the Office of Procurement, Federal Supply Service, for necessary action.

We think it would be most helpful if you would disseminate these interim guidelines to your ADP and procurement staff elements. We would also like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation for your continuing cooperation in our joint efforts in implementing P.L. 89-306.

If we can provide any additional clarification or advice on these matters, please let me know.

Sincerely yours,


H. A. Abersfeller
Commissioner

Enclosure